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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT EXAMINING OPERATION

Applicant(s): Glen H. ERIKSON et al.

Serial No: 09/713,177

Group Art Unit: 1637

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. No representation is made that the reference(s) is/are prior art with respect to this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a CPA under 37 CFR § 1.53(d), within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR § 1.491 in an international application, before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE under 37 CFR § 1.114. No certification or fee is required. 37 CFR § 1.97(b).

Application No. 09/713,177

Four of the reference(s) were cited in a related foreign application. An English language version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's information.

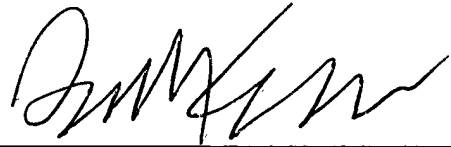
Respectfully submitted,

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February 3, 2003

Please charge or credit our
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necessary to effect entry
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of this submission.

By



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